

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1, 12, 13, 19, 26, 28 and 30 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled. Thus, claims 1-30 are pending.

Claim 13 was amended to correct a typographical error identified by the Examiner. Thank you for pointing out the error.

35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 5-9, 11-14, 19, 21-25, 26, 28, 30 stand rejected as being obvious over Lewis (U.S. Patent No. 6,385,388) in view of a DirectTV reference obtained from the Internet "waybackmachine" web site. Applicants note it is unknown to Applicants whether this web site correctly ascribes dates to the DirectTV literature provided by the Office in making the present rejections. However, for the sake of argument, the DirectTV reference will be tentatively presumed valid.

Assuming the DirectTV reference is valid, Applicants submit the suggested combination of references fails to teach or suggest claimed embodiments as amended. To facilitate their passage to issuance, each independent claim series has been amended to recite accessing over a network a group of segments containing content including the claimed protected segments.

Thus, **claim 1**, as amended, recites:

protecting the segments of the set, but not the other segments of the group, to prevent the protected segments from being properly reproduced unless the protection is undone with assistance of a correct key that is not generally available; and

providing access to the group of segments *over a network*.

Corresponding modifications have been made to **claim 26**.

Claim 12, as amended, recites:

accessing over a network a group of segments of content including a set of segments that does not include all segments of the group, and wherein the set, but not the other segments of the group, have been protected to prevent the protected segments from being properly reproduced without undoing the protection with assistance of a correct key that is not generally available;

undoing the protection if the correct key is received; and

playing the group of segments seamlessly with a media player.

Corresponding modifications have been made to **claim 28**.

Claim 19, as amended, recites:

circuitry and software cooperating with the user interface to select a set of the segments to be protected from a group of segments, wherein the set does not include all segments of the group, and to protect the set of segments, but not the other segments of the group, *to allow access to the unprotected segments over a network but* to prevent the protected segments from being properly reproduced *over the network* unless the protection is undone with assistance of a correct key that is not generally available.

Applicants submit that the DVD technology cited by the Office in Lewis fails to teach making available over a network the group of segments including protected segments as claimed in amended claims 1, 12, 19, 26, and 28. This failing of Lewis is not cured by the Satellite technology taught by DirectTV. Thus, whether these references, whether considered individually or one in combination with the other, fail to teach or suggest amended claims 1, 12 and 19.

Applicants note the Action's reference to video streaming technology. However, Applicants submit such technology does not teach or suggest data deliver as claimed, e.g., data comprising a group of segments including protected segments as claimed.

Regarding the rejections of dependent claims 2-11, 13-18, 20-25, 29 and 29, Applicants submit the amendments to independent claims 1, 12, 19, and 26 and 28 renders moot these rejections. While these dependent claims introduce further limitations distinguishing claimed embodiments over the documents relied on by the Office, Applicants submit these dependent claims are presently allowable for at least the reason as depending from allowable base claims. However, Applicants wish to specifically note the visual scrambling features recited in claims 2, 3, 7, 13, 21, 23. Such visual scrambling is not taught or suggested by the documents of record at least in the context of accessing data over a network as claimed.

Regarding **claim 30**, claim 30 has been amended to recite:

selecting a set of segments of content from a group of segments to be protected wherein the set does not include all segments of the group;

protecting the segments of the set, but not the other segments, through visual scrambling; and

providing access to the group of segments over a network.

As with claim 1, Applicants submit the cited portions of the documents relied on by the Office fail to teach or suggest accessing protected and unprotected segments over a network as claimed. Further, Applicants submit the cited portions of the documents relied on by the Office fail to teach or suggest the recited visual scrambling used in combination with the accessing over a network.

Application No. 09/275,514
Amendment dated October 7, 2003
Response to Office Action of 5/7/2003


Atty. Docket No. 042390.P7034
Examiner Naresh Vig
TC/A.U. 3629

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims **1-30** are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 7, 2003

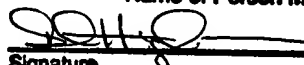

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